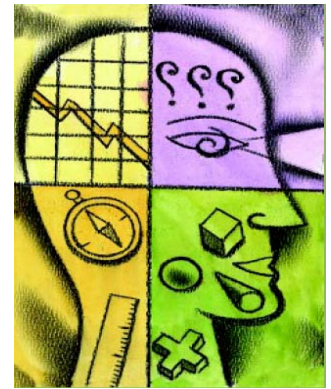




# Transfer Update: The Road to 2020

“Given the social and economic advantages of smooth transfer to individuals and states, improving articulation policy and practice is a matter of significant public interest. Effective articulation and transfer practices assure efficient use of public funds and foster education and social equity for those undertaking their postsecondary education.”

- Education Commission of the States, 1998



## Increasing Educational Attainment in Kentucky

The Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 (House Bill 1) called for a fundamental shift in postsecondary education participation, and emphasized the role of educational attainment in sustaining the general welfare and material well-being of the Commonwealth. “Kentucky’s reality is that we will sink or swim not on how well we educate our youth, but on how well we educate our entire population, whether age 15, 35, 55, or 75.”\*

In order to fulfill the promise of postsecondary education reform, Kentucky must recruit and enroll more students, ensure more students persist to degree completion, and infuse the postsecondary pipeline with more students at both undergraduate and graduate levels. In short, Kentucky must double the number of working-age adults with baccalaureate degrees to 791,000 by 2020 to reach the national average in educational attainment.

In 2005, the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) released *Double the Numbers, Five Step Intervention Plan* that highlights opportunities for increasing Kentucky’s capacity to reach its 2020 educational attainment goals. It is anticipated that without any intervention Kentucky will fall 211,000 degrees short of the 2020 goal. One of the key components of Kentucky’s progress on the road to 2020 is increasing the number of students who transfer to and complete bachelor’s degree programs at Kentucky’s four-year postsecondary institutions. CPE projects that approximately 11,500 students will need to transfer from Kentucky’s two-year to four-year postsecondary institutions by the year 2020.

Step 3 of the *Five Step Intervention Plan* focuses on closing the gap by increasing transfer from two-year to four-year institutions. CPE projects that 26,000 more bachelor’s degrees will be produced by funneling more first-time students through KCTCS and by increasing the number of transfers from KCTCS to Kentucky’s public and independent four-year institutions.

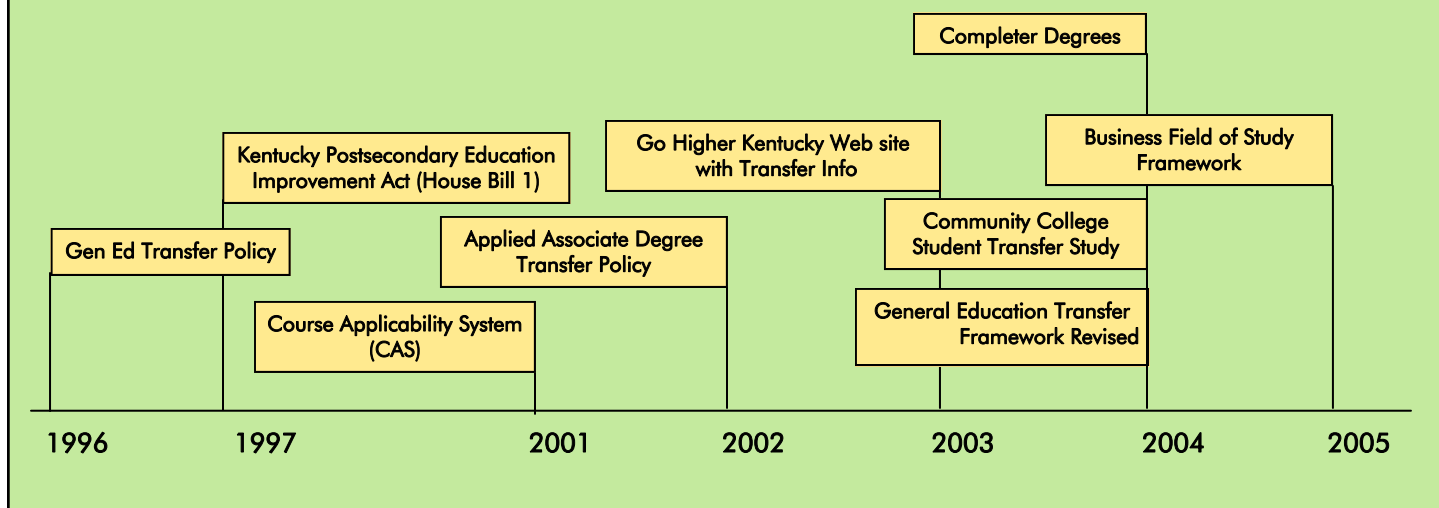
In order to increase the current number of transfers from KCTCS to four-year institutions to 11,500 in the next 14 years, the number of college student transfers must increase dramatically—almost tripling the number of students who transferred from KCTCS in 2004.

2020 Projections: KCTCS Transfers	
Academic Year	# of Transfer Students Per Year
AY 2006	4,900
AY 2008	5,500
AY 2010	6,200
AY 2012	7,000
AY 2014	7,900
AY 2016	8,900
AY 2018	10,100
AY 2020	11,500

\* Ron Crouch, Director, Kentucky State Data Center, University of Louisville

Source: CPE—Revised 2020 Projections, rounded

## Timeline of Transfer-related Events



### Critical Events in Transfer

Since the late 1990s, CPE has devoted considerable attention to the issue of college student transfer and supported a number of transfer policies and initiatives.

As Kentucky advances its Public Agenda for Postsecondary and Adult Education and moves toward the national average in educational attainment by the year 2020, issues surrounding college student transfer in Kentucky are increasingly important. To better understand and address transfer-related issues, the CPE Quality and Accountability Policy Group commissioned a statewide study of college

student transfer conducted in partnership with KCTCS. Nearly 5,000 KCTCS students were surveyed as a part of this study, which identified four primary barriers to college student transfer.

### Moving Forward: Efforts to Support Transfer

Since 1998 progress in the number of college student transfers from two-year to four-year institutions has been mixed, with a steady increase since 2003. CPE and Kentucky's postsecondary educational partners, including KCTCS, four-year public and independent postsecondary institutions, and KHEAA, have been actively engaged in the expansion of current efforts and the exploration of new ideas to promote college student transfer.

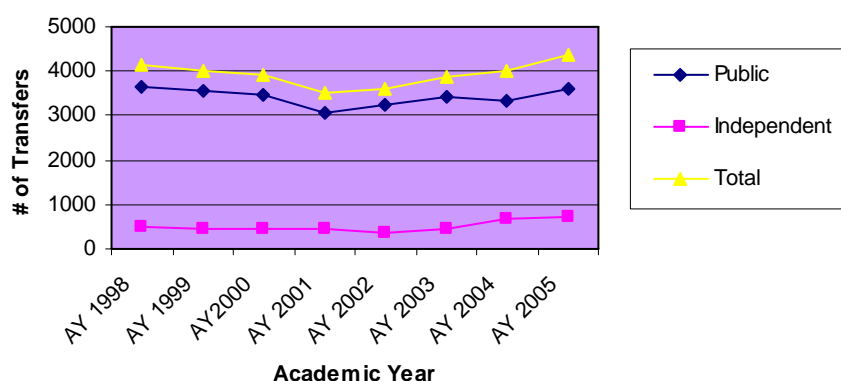
### 4 Key Barriers to Transfer in Kentucky

1. Financial barriers limit students' access to postsecondary education and transfer.
2. Students' perception of the benefit of postsecondary education is overshadowed by their desire for employment and stability.
3. Delivery of academic services at the baccalaureate level can be a barrier to student transfer and degree attainment.
4. Students' academic planning, preparation, and knowledge about transfer can limit their success within the transfer process.

### ...At the State-Level

- Workforce/Transfer Trust Fund scholarship monies were awarded in CPE's 2006-08 budget.
- The College Access Initiative was funded in the amount of \$800,000 as part of CPE's 2006-08 budget and will target potential transfer students as well as low-income P-12 and adult students. As a part of this effort, current institutional strategies for marketing transfer-relevant information and services will be reviewed.
- The Go Higher Kentucky Web portal, supported by KHEAA, is being enhanced to

### Transfer Trends from KCTCS to Kentucky Four-year Institutions



### Number of Transfers from KCTCS Per Kentucky Four-year Institution

Institutions	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	1 Yr % Change	4 Yr % Change
EKU	611	567	573	662	701	6%	15%
KSU	12	31	25	29	39	34%	225%
MoSU	355	362	389	312	396	27%	12%
MuSU	431	426	444	419	512	22%	19%
NKU	75	76	76	61	77	26%	3%
WKU	254	378	431	424	474	12%	87%
UK	893	928	957	896	815	-9%	-9%
UofL	424	480	512	551	594	8%	40%
Independents	470	367	466	674	741	10%	58%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,525</b>	<b>3,615</b>	<b>3,873</b>	<b>4,028</b>	<b>4,349</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>23%</b>

Source: CPE—2004-2005 Accountability Report

- provide more information and better utility for transfer students, including a process for managing the information and applications available to transfer students through the site.
- Course Applicability System (CAS) implementation continues to expand. KCTCS will program the CAS Course Interface in July 2006, and KSU and NKU have committed to implementing CAS by 2008. CAS contracts with UK and Miami University are being renewed, and Kentucky is preparing to update to CAS 4.0.
- The General Education Transfer Policy was revised in 2004 to enhance its usability. CPE staff has worked with the Statewide Transfer Committee to develop a process to monitor the implementation of the general education transfer policy and to determine inconsistencies in its application. CPE staff is currently evaluating the policy to enhance its

effectiveness as a tool for promoting and facilitating college student transfer in Kentucky.

- In 2004, CPE required all public universities to develop a completer degree. Completer degrees are intended to allow students with any associate degree to complete a bachelor's degree within the normal number of hours required for a bachelor's degree by the institution. CPE staff has compiled information on the status of completer degree program development.
- CPE will continue to monitor institutional progress regarding college student transfer through its key indicator system, including working with institutions to develop institutional goals for transfer.
- The Presidents' Transfer Strategies Subcommittee is currently exploring ways to facilitate more efficient transfer at the institutional level.

## ...At Kentucky's Universities

### Eastern Kentucky University:

- **Transfer Center** - Will allow students to apply for admission to EKU, determine how their transfer credit will apply to EKU degree programs, apply for financial aid, receive advising and registration services, and make arrangements for any placement testing that may be necessary.
- **Presidential Scholarship** – Transfer students can apply for a four-semester award that is based on prior college or university academic credentials including GPA, hours earned, and curriculum.
- **Completer Degree** – Bachelor of General Studies.
- **CAS** – Implemented in 2001.

### Kentucky State University

- **Partnership with BCTC** – To encourage and ease transfer within KSU's service region.
- **Transfer Presidential Scholarship** – Full and partial awards are available to transfer students who meet minimum requirements.
- **Completer Degree** – Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies/General Studies Option.
- **CAS** – Anticipated implementation in 2008.

### Morehead State University

- **Dual Admission Program** – Under development in partnership with KCTCS institutions within MoSU's service region.
- **Presidential Scholarship** – Available to transfer students and pays tuition and housing fees or tuition for those enrolled at a regional campus.
- **KCTCS Transfer Scholarship** - Pays \$2,500 for college GPA from 3.6 to 4.0 and \$2,000 for college GPA from 3.2 to 3.59.
- **Completer Degree** - Bachelor of University Studies and several similar options for KCTCS students.
- **CAS** - Implemented in 2001.

### Murray State University

- **Transfer Award** – A \$1,000 scholarship designated for transfer students who meet the minimum criteria; awards may only be applied to direct expenses.
- **Completer Degree** - Bachelor of Independent Studies program.
- **CAS** - Implemented in 2001.

### Northern Kentucky University

- **Dual Admission Program** – In partnership with Gateway Community and Technical College.
- **New Transfer Scholarship** - Under development.
- **Nonresident Award** - For students living out-of-state with 60 or more transferable hours.
- **Completer Degree** – Bachelor of Organizational Leadership.
- **CAS** – Anticipated implementation in 2008.

### University of Kentucky

- **Transfer Scholarships** – Transfer academic scholarships, departmental scholarships, and legacy tuition scholarships are available to transfer students who meet minimum requirements.
- **Completer Degree** – No plans at this time.
- **CAS** – Implemented in 2001; hosts the server for Kentucky CAS in partnership with CPE.

### University of Louisville

- **ULTRA Program** - Provides support and assistance for students before, during, and after the transfer process enabling them to transition and move toward degree completion at the University of Louisville.
- **Transfer Scholarship** – Community College Transfer Scholarship, College of Arts and Science Transfer Scholarship, University Honors Program Transfer Scholarships are available to transfer students who meet the minimum requirements.
- **Completer Degree** – Bachelor of Science in Occupational Training and Development.
- **CAS** – No plans to implement, provide transfer information via PeopleSoft.

### Western Kentucky University

- **Transfer Admissions Programs** – Including regular monthly visits, orientation and registration days, faculty appointments for all transfer students, and inclusion in telecounseling efforts.
- **Community/Junior College Scholarships** – Are awarded to transfer students who have completed two years of study at a community or junior college.
- **Completer Degree** – Bachelor of General Studies degree.
- **CAS** – Implemented in 2005.

### ***...Future Considerations***

While significant progress on transfer is being made at state and institutional levels, achieving and sustaining the level of growth required in the number of college students who transfer from two-year to four-year programs and earn bachelor's degrees calls for strategic action among Kentucky's postsecondary educational partners that is unparalleled in its innovation, coordination, aggressive implementation, and assessment.

Strategies will include:

- Joint admissions policies developed by four-year institutions with KCTCS institutions.
- Coordinated two-year to four-year advising with KCTCS institutions.
- Career Pathways linking the interests of business and education at the associate degree level to enhance workforce training and access.
- Expansion of distance learning platforms to provide broader access and academic delivery options.
- Expansion of current scholarship programs for transfer students at both two-year and four-year institutions.
- Transfer Feedback Report assessing the success of transfer students at four-year institutions.